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AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

30c

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

Vol. 17, No. 8.

54 Renwick Street, Marrickville. — Tel.: 55-6877

March 8, 1974

Best in Australia

Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES

IT'S APIA OR AUBURN FOR THE CUP!



JIM STEWART
(Auburn)

Convincing wins last week in front of more than 8,000 spectators put APIA and Auburn through to the final of the 1974 Ampol Cup at Wentworth Park on Sunday.

In many ways it is a final with a difference. It is the first time that two teams have reached the final after conceding a defeat in the preliminary round-robin, where both only came second in their group.

It was a former Auburn player — Billy Rogers — who scored APIA's winning goal in the semi and it was an ex-APIA man, Pat Deller, who scored a goal and "made" the other for Auburn against Pan Hellenic.

To press the irony home further, the current Auburn coach, Joe Marston, was in charge of APIA in 1973 and APIA's man of the hour, Tom Anderson, was linked with Auburn last year.

APIA have won the Ampol Cup twice — in 1966

and in 1970 — and were the beaten finalists in 1960 and 1964.

Auburn have never won the pre-season trophy, but reached the final in 1959 (when Prague beat them 7-0) and in 1963 (3-5 against Yugal).

When the series kicked-off, an APIA-Auburn final would have had few takers.

In our make-believe Cup odds we quoted APIA at 12-1 and Auburn at 33-1!

Yet, who would now begrudge either side their place in the final, even if APIA sneaked into the semifinals on a "technicality", by winning a play-off against Croatia which wouldn't have been necessary if the new ruling covering equal goal-difference had been inserted in the rules of the competition?

• See Preview Page 5.



TERRY BUTLER
(APIA)

Gough sends us to Burma

— By LINCOLN WALTERS —

The Australian under-23 team's brief Asian tour is almost certain to be extended.

After their scheduled three matches in Indonesia, the team will also play one match in Rangoon, Burma.

The initiative for this extra match came from the Prime Minister, Mr. Gough Whitlam himself.

While in Burma recently, he met several Burmese officials who had expressed their wish for an Australian team to visit there.

Mr. Whitlam then conferred with the Minister for Tourism and Recreation Mr. Frank Stewart whose department had arranged the team's visit to

Indonesia in the first place.

It is understood that the entire tour is underwritten by the Australian Government.

The match guarantees are so low and expenses so high that without Government assistance the ASF would have lost a small fortune — or would have been compelled to call the tour off.

This will be the first time ever that an Australian team visits Burma, one of the strongest soccer countries in Asia.

• The squad is on page 2.

AUSSIES FOR WARSAW

The ASF has almost finalised the national team's pre-World Cup warm-up matches after their departure on May 20.

Australia will play Indonesia in Jakarta the following day, on May 21, then have a seven-day break before their next match — against Israel, in Tel Aviv, on May 28.

Then it's on to Warsaw for the Soccerroos, whose next opponents will be Poland's under-23 team, on June 1.

From Poland, the World Cup squad will set up their headquarters in Baden, Switzerland, for eight days, during which two matches against First Division teams have been arranged.

On June 4 Australia will play Xamax, of Neuchâtel, and on the 8th their opponents will be either FC Zurich or Grasshoppers.

The Aussies will move into the Ochsenzoll Sports Centre, Hamburg, on June 9.

If Rale Rasic wishes, they can play a match against a local amateur team the day after their arrival — four days before they make their World Cup debut against East Germany, on June 14.

PARANA SAGA

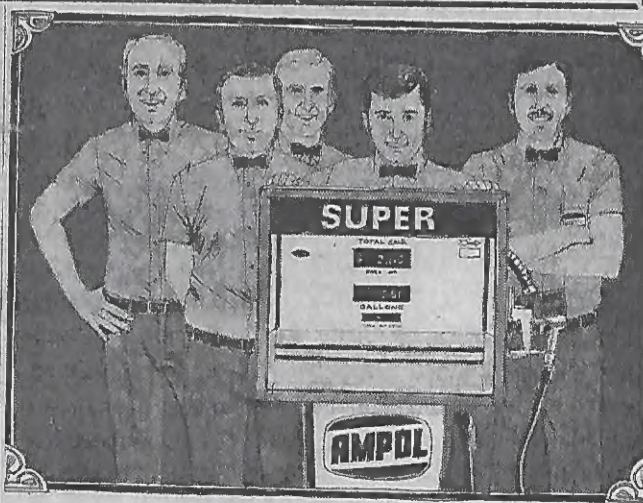
Meanwhile, the Parana saga continues...

The Brazilians will not play in Sydney after all because the ASF has refused to split any profits in Sydney with the NSW Federation.

Australia will meet the Brazilian State selection in Melbourne on Tuesday, March 26, and in Brisbane on Thursday, March 28.

The ASF is also negotiating with America, the 1973 champions of Mexico, who can be secured cheaply at the end of April.

— LOU GAUTIER



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Alex McMillan appears to be winning this duel for possession with Pan Hellenic's Raul Carrizo and Rokko Ile (far left) in last Sunday's Ampol Cup semifinal.

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Friday, March 8: Modern Dance Night with "The Trend".

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Sunday, March 10: 10 a.m. WORLD CUP FILM — Yugoslavia v. Spain. Admission \$2.00. Evening: Dance with "The Trend". Special Guest Artist — the beautiful, versatile Ingrid Hart.

Monday, March 11: SPECIAL NIGHT. Farewell Australian appearance of the famous Koko Racin Ensemble of Skopje. Reservation \$2.00 at reception.

Wednesday, March 13: Sports Night. Good prizes for all.

club patrol

Tenders closing March 19 are being called for CATERING RIGHTS at Wentworth Park to cover all engagements, including greyhound racing. However, this tender will mainly cover soccer games played there. For further information write to the Secretary, Box 225, P.O., Glebe.

STEVEN SMITH, a 21-year-old Cardiff City supporter, wants to exchange club badges with Australian soccer fans. His address is 3 Picton Place, Nantaffyllon Nr. Maesteg, Glamorgan (South Wales).

Safeway United conducted a COACHING CLINIC at Nowra last Sunday week. All first team players, including Geraint Roberts, were present. The United fullback is something of a local hero in Nowra, where he is a schoolteacher.

BRIAN TAYLOR, who was on loan to Corinthians from Granville last year, is trying his luck in South Africa.

Congratulations and happy birthday to Sutherland's PETER WYKES who is 21 years old today (Friday).

The ABC looks like televising live the following first round WORLD CUP matches: Brazil v. Yugoslavia, Australia v. East Germany, Holland v. Uruguay, Australia v. West Germany, Italy v. Argentina, Australia v. Chile, Italy v. Poland. Three second round games, on June 26 and 30 and on July 3, will also be shown, as well as the play-off for third place on July 6 and the final on July 7.

On March 17 Reversby Workers will hold the NEIL ADAMS Memorial Trophy tournament for teams from the Bankstown District. Neil Adams, who died last year, was only 19 years of age, and was a very promising player.

JACK LINDBERG has been elected secretary of Bankstown Soccer Club.

GEORGE YARDLEY, the former St. George-Budapest and Hakoah striker who is back in England after three spells in Australian soccer, is still in the game — playing with non-league side Altrincham. Altrincham, by the way, is the side which drew with Blackburn Rovers in the FA Cup at Blackburn in mid-

Although the NSW First Division championship does not start officially until the weekend of March 22/24, two league games will be played next Sunday, March 17. Safeway play Croatia at Woonona and St. George meet Canterbury at Wentworth Park in matches brought forward from the 10th round when Saints and Safeway will have several players away with the World Cup team.

December, but lost in the replay on their own ground. Yardley was playing on both occasions.

HARRY WILLIAMS is still feeling the effect of his severe virus infection and it will be some time until he is able to go back to training again. St. George could well do with his services.

It has been decided that SYDNEY REFEREES will institute the yellow and red caution and send-off cards in local games as soon as practicable.

PHIL ANTINAM, young reserve grade goalkeeper for Northern Districts, is also well known as a first grade cricketer with the Gordon club.

In the MINI AMPOL CUP semifinals Manly beat Illawarra 3-0 and Granville defeated Gladesville 2-1. The final will be played as a curtain-raiser at Wentworth Park on Sunday at 12 p.m. Manly's team is: R. Hodgson, S. Pland, J. Loveridge, S. Dick, G. Chapman, D. Fox, R. Talbot, B. Bailey, G. McTeague, C. Rogers and S. Scott.

Former Southern NSW official PAUL MOENS is back in Sydney following a period in his native Belgium. He will go back to Belgium again, and hopes to arrange some worthwhile contacts for future exchanges of juniors between the respective countries.

Channel Seven has filmed some LADIES' SOCCER matches played at Mt. Colah. The publicity so gained will provide another stimulus for women's football, which has entered a stage of expansion in the State.

MICK BOWLEY has been transferred from Manly to South Australia. Manly will also lose Peter Gee, who has been appointed as physical instructor at Queensland University.

Hakoah and Croatia have shown interest in Manly centre-half BILL HUTCHIN-

SON and ADRIAN ALSTON to leave this season. Tolson was keen to return to Marconi and "Noddy" wanted to rejoin the St. George fold. Let's hope the air soon clears down Woonona way and that all differences are settled before Safeway's first league match, against Croatia, on Sunday week.

The SYDNEY SPORTS-GROUND has been secured for two First Division championship games this season. On Friday March 22, St. George-Budapest and Hakoah will play there, and on July 21 the St. George-APIA game is scheduled for the ground.

HAKOAH are still chasing their first win. At Woonona last Sunday Safeway beat them 3-1.

It has now been confirmed that World Cup referee, Tony Boskovic, will referee the TESTIMONIAL MATCH between the Australian World Cup squad and Bankstown. This match will be played at the Soccer Centre on Wednesday, March 13, at 7 p.m. The testimonial is being held for two well-known players Colin Fitzgerald and Dennis Madden.

Chelsea in Wollongong

English First Division club side Chelsea will play an Illawarra side in Wollongong on Wednesday, June 5.

Audien Brown released plans for the five-match tour this week.

Chelsea open their tour with a match against Western Australia in Perth on May 26; then they meet South Australia in Adelaide (May 29), Queensland in Brisbane (June 2), Illawarra on June 5, and NSW in Sydney on June 9.

IDSA officials recently held talks with the NSW Federation secretary and plans for the Wollongong match were drawn up.

On their last visit to Australia in 1964 Chelsea drew a large crowd to Woonona on a Wednesday afternoon when they beat South Coast United 1-0.

On that occasion a very young Peter Osgood scored the winning goal.

Chelsea will draw a bumper crowd in Wollongong under lights and they may spend two or three days in the "Steel City" after the Brisbane encounter.

— PAUL POSETTI

UNDER-23 SQUAD

The Australian squad, announced last week, is Goalkeepers — A. Maher (NSW), K. Jones (Qld); Defenders — J. Clinchinski (SA), G. Mateljan (WA), G. Lynch (NSW), V. Bannon (Vic), W. Halvorsen (NNSW), E. Tarquino (Vic); Midfielders — G. Byrne (NSW), J. Davidson (WA), J. Genovese (Tas.), I. Fagan (Qld), J. Senkalski (NNSW), V. Juchmievic (NSW); Forwards — M. Barnes (NSW), M. Milevski (Vic), J. Nyskois (SA), C. Dench (Qld), W. Valeri (ACT), J. Palinkas (Vic), Manger — Ian Brinscoe (Qld); Team doctor — Keith Pearson (Qld); Physiotherapist — Peter van Ryn (NSW); Coach — Eric Worthington (National Director of Coaching).

WARREN'S TV SHOW

David Jack's soccer segment on ATN Channel 7 is no more.

This season, the soccer on Seven's "Sports Action" will be handled by Johnny Warren. John Warren, obviously, has excellent credentials for the job but, as a current player, he will have to tread warily.

Judged on their past form, the ASF and NSW Federation will keep a close check on what Johnny Warren says and will be ready to pounce if anything controversial creeps into the segment.

When we asked David Jack why he had been replaced, he told "Soccer World": "Rex Mossop said it would be good for the prestige of his program if a former Australian captain handled the soccer segment. The job didn't pay enough for me to argue about that!"

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HISTORY IN THE MAKING: ENGLISH SCHOOLBOYS ARE COMING IN JULY

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

The English Schools Football Association representative team will play five matches in Australia this year between Saturday, July 20 and Sunday, August 11.

The trail-breaking announcement — the biggest event yet for Australian Schools Soccer football — will be made next week in London by ESFA secretary Glyn Evans and in Sydney by Albie Anderson, president of the Western Suburbs Soccer Club Ltd, who are sponsoring the visit on behalf of Australian schools.

World Cup Art Union

There are six tickets to the World Cup finals to be won in The World Cup Soccer Art Union as part of six, equal first prizes which also provide return flights to Munich and hotel accommodation for a week in that city.

Net proceeds from the Art Union will assist the work of The Royal NSW Institution for Deaf and Blind Children at their Centre at North Rocks, but the Parklea Soccer Coaching Academy is also receiving some assistance from the sale of tickets.

Besides the six return flights to Munich with accommodation there and football tickets for the World Cup finals on July 6 and 7, other valuable prizes are: A P & O cruise for two people to the South Sea Islands in the Himalaya, value \$1,000; a Honda XL250 trail motor cycle, value over \$800; a Kelvinator domestic refrigerator-freezer, value \$400; a Metters upright cooker, value \$260; a Russian mink stole dyed marmot, from Rodny's Fur Salon, value \$200; a Singer electric stretch stitch zig zag sewing machine, value \$200; a National and Aiko cassette recorder, value \$67 and \$65, respectively.

From London, English Schools secretary Glyn Evans said: "If the history of the English Schools Football Association reveals anything, it says that such tours are most beneficial."

Albie Anderson, of Wests, speaking in Sydney, said: "England represents an astounding number of 15,000 schools!"

"Their team plays West Germany at Wembley in June, and a crowd of 70,000 is expected."

"This is a big and costly venture and we know that the States concerned, the general public, the schools and juniors will join us in making the event a resounding success."

In Sydney Bob Quimby, convenor of the meeting to establish the Australian Schools Soccer Football Association, gave the tour a big welcome also.

There will be 26 in the touring party, including 18 players, and Western Suburbs has accepted the financial responsibility from London to Australia and

return, with costs outlaid being first charge on the gate receipts.

Jack Churchill pressed the English Council to send every one of its senior executives on tour, so that a proper foundation of contact could be laid.

Apart from secretary Glyn Evans (Staffordshire), leading officials expected to be in the party are chairman Bill Alder (Lancashire), vice-chairman J. D. Jennett (Sheffield), and treasurer Jack Shaw (Manchester).

Duration of games will be either 35 or 40 minutes each way. Games are yet to be finalised, but the idea is that they be against State teams, with organisation of a full Australia-England schoolboy international a distinct possibility.

The English Schools came our way on tour ages, which will be under-15 on January 1, 1974.

Normally English schoolboy internationals are based on age at August 31 of the opening year of the particular season.

The ESFA was not able to commit itself to a reciprocal tour at this stage due to considerable commitments, even though a return visit is the normal procedure.

Mr. Churchill said that he appreciated their views and difficulties, but he had no doubt that success in Australia would open up a range of possible tours against all British and many European countries.

As befitting a school sporting tour, the itinerary will include visits to places of an educational nature as well.

The tour will be arranged here on the highest plane. It is vital that coaches be selected on ability. With everyone putting their shoulders to the wheel the tour will cause a real blow to be struck for the future of our own home produced players.

Wests aim to cover their huge outlay, and surplus profits earned will be used to continue establishment of the best in the schoolboy game.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHOPPERS

There is a lot of deserved comment about players, like Gary Manuel, being chopped down in soccer matches.

All the forwards playing today in Australia are hacked.

As a soccer fan I am disgusted.

But what about the up-and-coming young players in third grade?

They are not given any kind of money for playing, but they, too, are being chopped down time and again and put out of play for months.

They have expenses, injury, and loss of time from school or work as the case may be.

More importantly, they are being injured in such a manner as to jeopardise all chances of a future in the sport.

I have seen third graders suffer twice the injury Manuel received in just one match.

There is seldom even a free-kick given against the offenders.

Many of them will never recover completely from these injuries and their progress in the game is stopped — period!

GUIDO DE CARLI, Penhurst

THE MISSING ALBERT

There must have been thousands like me who went to see Ferencvaros because of Florian Albert.

His appearances, as publicised by the media should have been the highlight of the tour.

But where was Albert when Australia played Ferencvaros?

— JOHN MEREDITH, Merrylands

SOMETHING'S ROTTEN...

The unfortunate Prince Hamlet would probably again cry his proverbial statement if he had the opportunity to read your article headed "Quo vadis, Australia?"

Once again officialdom is letting down not only the Soccerroos, but the whole of Australia, by not providing our gallant team with adequate preparation for its gruelling tasks in Germany. NSW refused Parana to settle for — of all things — Auckland.

What is this "Brain-Trust" expecting to achieve by this? It beats me... What can we learn from those encounters?

Look at the Haitian schedule: Uruguay and Chile twice, Romania, Austria, East Germany, Zaire twice again, and so on.

Enough to make you feel like barracking for Haiti, not for your own country!

Even mighty Brazil, as every other sane country, will play a series of matches with Mexico, Portugal, USSR, Romania, East Germany, Peru, Paraguay, Austria. Tough, international matches.

Yet, Australia, who needs more build-up games than any other country, will be idle week after week.

Back to you, Hamlet: "Something is rotten in the State of Denmark!"

— MIHAILO MILJKOVIC, Guildford

PLEA FROM THE WEST

I agree that many games must be staged now in preparing the Soccerroos for the arduous World Cup.

Australia is now firmly established in soccer and people are taking more notice, in other words a market exists for the Soccerroos in all cities of Australia.

Should this not be taken advantage of before the interest dwindles in Western Australia?

Perth has and can still draw large crowds, probably more than Melbourne can, and definitely more than Brisbane.

We've not had the present Soccerroos here as yet, so it is high time we get a chance to see them, preferably against Parana, of Brazil.

It's fair as Adelaide and Brisbane had this chance several times.

Our magnificent Perry Lakes stadium could be one venue or the W.A.C.A. for evening games.

The German national team plays, incidentally, in all larger cities in a given period — the game must be promoted and so it should be done here.

The furthering of the code must be foremost in our minds. I think now is the right time to stage games everywhere in Australia.

DIETER MENZEL, Bassendean (WA).

Smalltalk

It's better to be born lucky than rich, goes a dubious old saying hotly disputed by the poor, especially if they also happen to be unlucky.

But we have, in our midst, quite a few men who were definitely born unlucky, at least as far as age is concerned.

They were born too soon and played their best soccer in this country before our deep involvement in international affairs.

Many either passed their peak or even retired from the scene before our World Cup ventures started. How we could do now with their talents...

NOSTALGIA NONSENSE?

I realise that this implies criticism of today's players; to some it may even sound nostalgic nonsense.

But most of the soccer fans, at least in the 30-plus age group, will know just what I mean.

In Jim Fraser, for example, we have perhaps the best goalie in Australia at present, a worthy successor to Ron Corry.

However, even Jimmy himself would have to admit that Ron Lord was in a very special class, probably the best goalie this country ever had.

Were Lord some 15 years younger today, he would be one of the stars of the Australian team. Or take others, if you like, though it's possible that no general agreement could be reached on all the names.

Joe Marston is one who, in my own opinion (and you don't have to share this view) would be in the 1974 Australian World Cup at his best.

NOT BORN LUCKY

Probably the safest and most constructive defender Australia has ever produced, Marston is another one who wasn't born lucky.

No doubt, he would gladly swap his experience with Preston North End for a World Cup team place next June.

I will always remain convinced also that Pat Hughes and Les Scheinflug were our two best wing halves who could easily make today's Australian team as midfielders.

Both played in the 1965 World Cup matches in Phnom Penh and soon after began to fade.

Forwards (or strikers now) always manage to trigger off more controversy than others, so here I am probably treading on slippery ground.

One player, however, who on ability alone would walk into today's Australian team is Les Schauman, one-time "enfant terrible" of Sydney soccer.

STRANGE MOODS

At his best — and discounting his often strange moods that in fact prevented him from fulfilling his true potential — Schauman was the ideal striker: fast, tall, elusive, tricky, skilled and goal-hungry.

Andy Sagi, his former compatriot from Hungary would probably also make a strong bid for a World Cup spot if we could turn back the time 14 years or so.

One of the most polished and thoughtful players in Sydney, Sagi was a great schemer as well as scorer when with Prague.

The great Austrian trio I bypass purposely: Baumgartner, Jaros and Ninaus all played for Austria before coming to this country and therefore couldn't be considered for today's World Cup team.

On their skill, of course, they would have been almost automatic selections.

Who else? Some people may pump for Giacometti, the opportunist goal-grubber that would be handy in the World Cup; others would vote for Roy Blitz, the classical winger of the 1960s, one of the Canterbury "greats" like Brian Smith, John Curry, Jimmy Moore or Barry Salisbury, the lightning-fast Bruce Morrow, the former Wallend Auburn ace or others.

BEST AVAILABLE

By and large, the entire soccer community agrees that Rale Rasic has the best available players in his squad; no potential champion has been unfairly left out.

Anybody and everybody with even half a claim has been given a chance.

Still, the intriguing prospect remains just how would Rasic decide between a Schauman-Blitz and an Alston-Abonby pair, would he prefer today's midfielders or perhaps the "oldies?"

Luckily for Rasic, the problem is purely theoretical.

Unluckily for the ghost challengers, they were born too soon...

— MIKE RENWICK

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IT'S A GOAL!

APIA v. ST. GEORGE 1-0

No sweat for fitter APIA

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

St. George's goalscoring prowess in the preliminary matches entitled them to favoritism, but it was APIA who did enough even in the early stages to make their Ampol semifinal win — ultimately 1-0 — a near certainty.

It only took 16 minutes for Bill Rogers to find the goal that shot them into the final.

John Wallace crossed and Rogers brushed off one defender and curved his shot from 15 metres so that it swung completely away from the distraught Jim Fraser.

Both sides took up defensive stations from the outset — that mutual respect that one had for the other made them smother the centre continuously.

APIA, however, found the Saints' left flank conveniently open, because the Saints often gave precious little cover when Doug Utjesenovic ventured upfield.

Terry Butler and Ken Jenkins used this space continuously.

Neither provided a 100% success story because either their balls were not placed with full accuracy, or the St. George cover defence bundled the ball away.

It was a different tale from the right side, from whence George Blues instigated damaging moves. Whenever he came into the play he spelt danger for the opposition.

It was a hot enough day, and it looked at one stage as if APIA physiotherapist Bruno Gallo was sure to run out of supplies of the sponges his players snatched from him galore in a bid to soothe the fevered brow.

Perhaps that very same heat shone with extra devilry on St. George, already without John Warren and overlayer Harry Williams, because they went flat in the middle of the game.

Neville Morgan came on for Hamilton after halftime, but it made no difference to the Saints, apart from one great cross to the far post from which John Stoddart's head rose too high.

Just digressing in part, former CHS State coach Peter Thraves of Singleton High recently asked me how young Saint Brendan Grosse was going.

Brendan was a CHS representative whom Thraves regarded highly, but for the life of me I couldn't report why he gets so few first team games.

On in the 49th minute, he immediately established rapport with John McDonald.

Surely football brains are not there for part use! APIA might have picked

up a couple more in the 54/55th minutes, when Rogers sent one just over from a Blues cross, and Terry Butler missed goaling when Fraser's fist failed to contact the ball.

For St. George Attu Abonyi and Doug Utjesenovic both had shots well blocked by John Roberts in the last three minutes, but at that stage a St. George draw — let alone victory — would have gone utterly against the grain.

A final word for "Quiet John" Russell, who did a power of work in APIA's rearguard, and also for Paul Cotton, a solid and constructive defender for St. George.

APIA: Roberts 4, McGinn 3, Jenkins 4, Wallace 4, McGhee 3, Russell 4, Blues 5 (Clarke 67 min), Rooney 4, Ollerton 3, Rogers 4, Butler 4.

St. George: Fraser 3, Utjesenovic 3, G. Harris 3, Schaefer 4, Cotton 4, Stoddart 3, Herron 3, Abonyi 3, B. Harris 3 (Grosse 49 min), Hamilton 3 (Morgan 3), McDonald 4.

Scorers: Rogers 16 min.

Crowd: 8,015 (double-header).

Referee: T. Davies (5).

CROATIA CRUSHED

APIA won through to the Ampol semifinals with a crushing 4-0 win over Croatia last Wednesday week.

After an even first half, when only superb goalkeeping by John Roberts, stopped Croatia from scoring, APIA took full control.

Frank Brady's 27th minute injury (Croatia played with 10 men until halftime) and two colossal blunders by Ron Corry facilitated their task, however.

APIA: Roberts 5, McGinn 4, Jenkins 4, Wallace 4, McGhee 4, Russell 3, Blues 4, Rooney 4, Ollerton 3, Rogers 4, Butler 3.

Croatia: Corry 2, Clarke 3, Harris 3, Stewart 3 (replaced Brady halftime), Yaeger 3, Whalley 4, Doyle 3, Nixon 3, Sullivan 3, D. Smith 4, Vojtek 4.

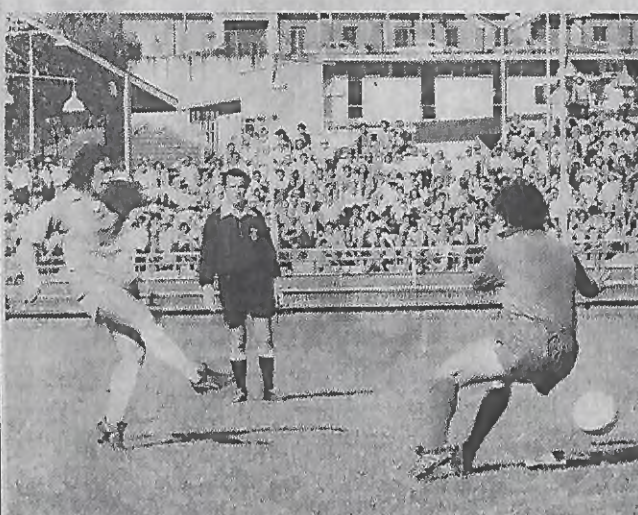
Scorers: Blues 30 min., Wallace 42 min., Jenkins 60 min., Butler 67 min.

Referee: H. Witschke.

Crowd: 3,459. — L.G.



APIA's star midfielder Jim Rooney in action.



A determined David Keddie slams Auburn's first goal past Pan Hellenic goalkeeper Tony Maghis, but referee Peter Rampley doesn't look too impressed.

Auburn v. Pan Hellenic 2-0

It was 1973 all over again!

— By Lou Gantier —

Auburn, easily the best of the four finalists, on display at Westworth Park, stunned thousands of Greek fans into embarrassed silence by bundling Pan Hellenic out of the Ampol Cup last Sunday.

Pan Hellenic's supporters had every reason to hide their faces in shame: for a painful 70 minutes it was the old Pan Hellenic all over again.

The style might have been different, but all the disorganisation and clumsiness that made Pan Hellenic a not so funny joke in Sydney soccer were again amply in evidence.

They bore no resemblance to the side which had performed so well on their way to the semifinals. Hellenic's abysmal failure, however, must not detract from Auburn's splendid win and only prove to their fans how far they have to go before they become a credible "top four" candidate.

With the exception of a tentative opening 15-minute stanza, when Auburn gave the impression of being overawed by the occasion and over-estimating their opponents, it was all Auburn, whose simple, direct football paid handsome dividends.

True, Steve Hoszowski, that fine young Auburn goalkeeper who has class stamped all over him, brilliantly saved shots from Dave Harding and Agenor Muniz in the 37th and 63rd minutes, and Paddy Buckley hit the crossbar in the 60th, but Auburn literally tore the Hellenic defence to shreds whenever they moved into attack.

Had Ivo Rudic, not nipped several promising attacks in the bud, so to speak, Auburn's winning margin could have even been greater.

Right-back Robert Barr was unable to hold Parker, and consequently most of the damage came from Auburn's left wing.

Pat Deller was in the thick of things. He played a big part in Auburn's first goal and scored the second himself.

Tony Maghis, however, carries a big responsibility for both goals even though

he made a couple of great saves off other shots.

In the 30th minute the Hellenic 'keeper gave away a "silly" corner from a harmless speculator by Deller. From Malone's corner, the ball came to Deller who laid it on for David Keddie to score a typically opportunist goal.

Ten minutes after the interval, less than 60 seconds after Keddie hit the crossbar with a 12-metre left-footed drive, Auburn made sure of victory — again through courtesy of Tony Maghis, who allowed Deller's 25-metre angled shot to slip through his outstretched arms.

That was the beginning of the end for Hellenic, whose game deteriorated further, their two late scoring chances notwithstanding.

Auburn, gaining in confidence as the minutes ticked by, played the best football I've seen from them since their Henderson and Len Quested era of the late 1950's.

Unsung and unheralded at the start of the season, all but buried after selling Rogers, Tracey and McDonald, Auburn were good value for their win.

None played better than Jim Stewart, who has blos-

somed into a more than useful, intelligent midfielder.

Raw-boned Steve Leak was a tower of strength in defence, and in attack Deller, Keddie and Parker ran rings round the Hellenic defence.

Ivo Rudic, and to a lesser degree Agenor Muniz, escaped with untarnished reputations, but what can one say about their teammates?

Where were Rokko Ile, Raul Carrizo, Peter Brankin and Dave Harding?

Those key players, on whom the team built its earlier cup successes, sunk without a trace.

As for most of the Hellenic defenders and midfielders, their dulled reflexes and astonishingly inept control of the ball had to be seen to be believed!

Needless to say, none of the attractive teamwork and method which characterised Pan Hellenic's play in earlier rounds were to be seen, with the exception of the first quarter, but then Carrizo ruined everything by trying to be too clever with the ball.

Auburn: Hoszowski 4, Lawson 4, Hughes 3, Malone 3, Leak 4, McMillan 3, Sidney 3, Stewart 4, Deller 4 (Quested 54 min.), Keddie 4, Parker 4.

Pan Hellenic: Maghis 3 (Meir 49 min.), Barr 2 (Buckley 43 min.), Rudic 4, Barboutis 3, Bell 3, Stowell 3, Muniz 3, Harding 3, Brankin 3, Carrizo 3, Ile 3.

Scorers: Keddie 30 min., Deller 45 min. for Auburn.

Referee: P. Rampley (5).

Crowd: 8,015 (double-header).

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AMPOL CUP 1974

Third time lucky for Marston's Auburn?

— By LOU GAUTIER —

APIA, back in the Ampol final after a four-year absence (they won it in 1970), will start favorites, but that should not worry giant-killing Auburn, trying for their first Cup win after two unsuccessful attempts.

The Tangerines gave Pan Hellenic a lesson in humility in the semifinals.

APIA would do well not to take them cheaply.

I am sure coach Tommy Anderson won't be known for his former team too well for that.

As there's not much Joe Marston doesn't know about APIA, the stage is set for an intriguing 1974 Cup final, which not one in ten would have predicted at the start of the season.

APIA's big forwards may hold the key to the final.

Given a good sight of high balls, Peter Ollerton and Bill Rogers, who will be making his first appearance against

his former team-mates, could prove match-winners.

Their duel with the towering Steve Leak, who has performed most impressively in the middle of the Auburn defence right through the series, will have a vital bearing on the result.

APIA, if they are to win, must take the initiative, and pretty early at that.

Auburn, their confidence and morale at an all-time high, will not be easily impressed, especially if they hold out, as they did so well against Pan Hellenic, for the first 15 minutes.

Pat Deller is proving one of Auburn's best buys for years.

THE FINAL

The youthful striker, who should have walked into the Australian under-23 squad for Indonesia and Burma, would

dearly love to knock the team that discarded him off its perch.

Dave Keddie, enjoying a new lease of life and playing as well as in 1970 when he was selected in the Australian team, and Gary Quested, also an international four years ago, will be the other Auburn "dangersmen" APIA's defence must closely attend to.

APIA to win — but in their present mood Auburn are in with a big chance!

Likely teams:

APIA: 1 Roberts, 2 McGinn, 3 Jenkins, 4 Wallace, 5 McGhee, 6 Russell, 7 Blues, 8 Rooney, 9 Ollerton, 10 Rogers, 11 Butler.

Auburn: 1 Hoszowski, 2 Dawson, 3 Hughes, 4 Malone, 5 Leak, 6 McMillan, 7 Quested, 8 Stewart, 9 Deller, 10 Keddie, 11 Panker.



PAT DELLER



Peter Ollerton gets his header away despite a strong challenge from Paul Cotton (5) and Manfred Schaefer in the Cup semifinal at Wentworth Park. APIA beat St. George 1-0 to reach their first Ampol final since 1970.

FOR THIRD PLACE

Face-saving win a must

What many people expected to the final will merely be the curtain-raiser on Sunday when St. George and Pan Hellenic play-off for third and fourth prize-money.

The fans of both teams will be looking for vastly improved displays by their fallen idols.

"Consolation" games in the Ampol Cup seldom produce fireworks, but it could be different this time as both teams will be determined to prove that last week's form was all wrong.

Seims' display in the semifinals was much less disappointing than Hellenic's, so perhaps this could be a pointer to the result.

Both teams until last week had produced the sparkling attacking football which was sadly missing from their play in the semifinals.

If Saints and Pan Hellenic can recapture the form that enabled them to win their preliminary groups, we could see an entertaining match.

Likely teams:

Pan Hellenic: 1 Meir, 2 Stowell, 3 Rudic, 4 Barboutis,



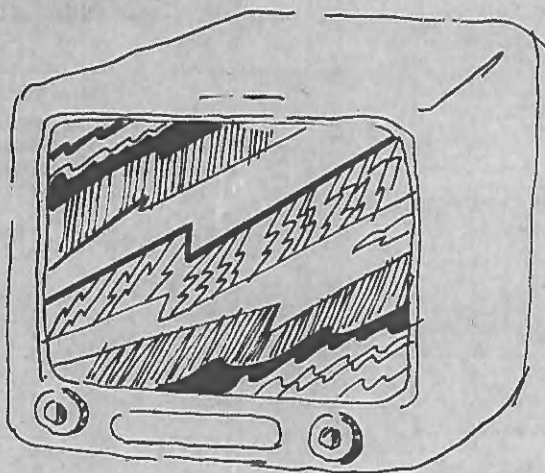
GEORGE HARRIS

5 Belt, 6 Buckley, 7 Muniz, 8 Harding, 9 Brankin, 10 Carrizo, 11 He.

St. George: 1 Fraser, 2 Ujesticovic, 3 G. Harris, 4 Schaefer, 5 Cotton, 6 Stoddart, 7 Herron, 8 Abonyi, 9 J. Warren, 10 Hamilton, 11 McDonald.

— L.G.

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OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF NSW FEDERATION

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, MARCH 10
AMPOL CUP

Pan Hellenic v. St. George (Play-off for third place) — Wentworth Park, 1.15 p.m.
APIA v. Auburn (Final) — Wentworth Park, 3.00 p.m.

NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

SPLIT FIRST DIVISION ROUND

Safeway v. Cronin — Woomera Oval
St. George v. Canterbury — Wentworth Park

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

AUSTRALIA v. AUCKLAND

Sydney Sportsground, 8 p.m.



Herrera's heart attack

Helenio Herrera's heart attack will keep him in Milan's Rozoni Clinic for at least three months. He was allowed no visitors until this week and will only leave the oxygen tent after the weekend. It now seems certain his prestigious career is over. His temporary replacement at Inter Milan is his assistant, Masiero.

Osgood waits in Spain

Peter Osgood is spending most of his time in Spain these days, while waiting for a club to show interest in him. So far, Chelsea have had no serious bids for his services. Osgood has several business ventures in Spain, including a block of flats in the Balears and a shoe shop in Madrid.

Olympic venues announced

The whole of the 1976 Olympic soccer tournament in Canada could be played on synthetic surfaces. The organisers of the Montreal Games last month announced that matches would be played in Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa as well as in the main stadium in Montreal. All three of the Ontario cities have large stadiums by Canadian standards and are connected to Montreal by air and by first-class rail services. On a brief visit to Canada last year, FIFA General Secretary, Dr. Helmut Kaser, made an inspection of the stadiums and expressed his satisfaction.

Wrexham, the giant-killers

Wrexham, the small North Welsh club which reached the quarterfinals of the FA Cup for the first time and now meet Burnley, is the oldest Association club in Wales and was formed in 1873. With almost a complete "local" team and names like Davis, Evans, Thomas and Lloyd dominating their line-up, they have already disposed of Crystal Palace, Middlesbrough, and First Division Southampton, whose star-studded line-ups include several players bought at considerable expense. Wrexham's manager is John Neal, the former Aston Villa defender. Their secretary is Cliff Lloyd, a prominent member of the English Players' Union.




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Sir Alf Ramsey is unrepentant. Writing in last month's "FA News", he said: "To suggest that much was wrong with English football and to demand all manner of investigations, surveys and the like to establish why England was eliminated from the World Cup is an insult to every player. The game provides splendid entertainment for players and spectators and those who are continually knocking it are doing a disservice to the men responsible for administration. England has always produced and continues to find players who apply a physical application to the game. By and large, our style is characteristic of our make-up and conditions under which we live."

● Bundesliga club Hertha Berlin was beaten 1-3 in Tel Aviv by the local Maccabi side.

● A record crowd of 21,000 in St. Louis watched the US inter-collegiate championship final.

● Swindon Town's Scottish goalkeeper, Jimmy Allard, won't play on Sundays. The 19-year-old is an active member of the Church of Scotland, which forbids other than religious activities on Sundays. Manager Lee Allen will respect his player's convictions.

● Soccer's turn-over make it the 24th largest industry in Belgium.

● If Lazio wins the Italian championship, as well they may, Italy will have no representative in next season's European Champions' Cup because the Roman club has been barred by the UEFA from taking part in any international competition for one year.

● Italy's Artemio Franchi will retain the presidency of the UEFA, the ruling body of European football. No one will stand against him at UEFA's annual general meeting on May 22 in Edinburgh.

● The first indoor soccer match in the United States was played last week at New York's Ice Arena between Dynamo Moscow and the St. Louis All Stars. The Russians won 3-2 in front of 3,400 spectators.

● Elton John, the British pop star who has been appearing in Australia, is a director of Watford Football Club.

● Several members of Argentina's World Cup team are expected to sign with Italian clubs next season. Italy will again open its borders to foreign imports in September.

● A Yugoslav has been arrested in Germany on charges of forging 1,500 tickets for the World Cup eliminator between Yugoslavia and Spain.

● Janko Zvezanovic, former stopper of Spartacus Subotica and Red Star, is the new coach of Cameroon's national team.

● Peter Popovic, former Yugoslav star, is now coaching in Kuwait, where Ljubisa Brodic, well known in Melbourne, is also engaged.

● Zeis Jena and Dynamo Dresden have reached the final of the East German Cup.

● According to a computer, which was fed all the relevant data, Ferencvaros will win the current Hungarian championship.

● Real Madrid suffered one of its most catastrophic results when they went down 0-5 to Barcelona — in their own Madrid stadium.

● Two days after their return from Australia, Ferencvaros played in the first round of the Hungarian Cup and defeated the amateur Ferencvarosi VSK team 2-0. Their opponents play five divisions below Ferencvaros.

● The Italian club Bari has to play its next four matches on neutral ground because of a crowd disturbance in their recent game against Atalanta.

● That Gerd Muller again... In Bayern Munich's 3-2 win over Hannover in the West German Cup, Muller scored all his team's goals.

● Karl Decker has become the president of the Austrian Coaches' Federation. His first decree: soccer must again be made popular in the country's schools.

● Former Hungarian internationals Meszoly, Farkas and Ihasz will receive a benefit match from their club Vasas on February 28.

● "I'm scared about this Cup game against Bristol City," said Leeds manager Don Revie 24 hours before the match. "Three years ago it was Fourth Division Colchester that knocked us out." Revie's fears were well founded: Bristol won 1-0, causing the biggest Cup shock in years.

● Ahlstrom, the 21-year-old forward of the Swedish Elfsborg, has joined the Dutch Feyenoord.

● Nandor Hitegkuli, former brilliant Hungarian star, is now coach of the National Cairo club in Egypt.

● Laszlo Kubala, Spain's manager, is reportedly bitter about his team's display against Yugoslavia and wants to resign. Reports claim that Kubala has been offered the managerial post in Real Madrid.

● The greatest gate-taking ever in Italian club football was the happy aftermath of the Lazio v. Juventus match in Rome's Olympic stadium. All 90,000 tickets were sold in advance, for 287 million lira (about \$330,000).

● Iceland's first world-class player since Albert Gudmunsson, who achieved fame and fortune with Racing Paris in the early 1950's, that's the label on 19-year-old Einar Sigurvinsson, Standard Liege's new recruit.

● The match in Cairo between Zamalek and Dukla Prague which claimed 48 lives two weeks ago was to have been the first soccer game in Egypt since the October war. The Egyptian championship will resume on March 29 after a five-month interruption.

SOUTH SYDNEY-CROATIA S.F.C.

All young players interested in playing grade football are invited to attend training with the above club.

Training is held from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Erskineville Oval, and Fridays at Alexandria Park.

L. Brown
Hon. Secretary
Tel.: 42-3511 (a.h.)

THAT Scottish anthem...

WHISTLES IN THEIR THISTLES

I was interested to read a small item in the daily press about the problem of the Scottish World Cup soccer team's standing for "God Save the Queen."

To save them getting any thistles in their whistles, why don't they stand for the tune, but sing (or even think, which is what matters most) their own words? Billy Bremner or Denis Law could write them, but just in case they're so busy playing that they haven't got time, here my version:

(To the tune of the National Anthem)

SCOTLAND, the greatest team,

SCOTLAND, our noble team,

SCOTLAND, our team!

SCOTLAND will aye endure,

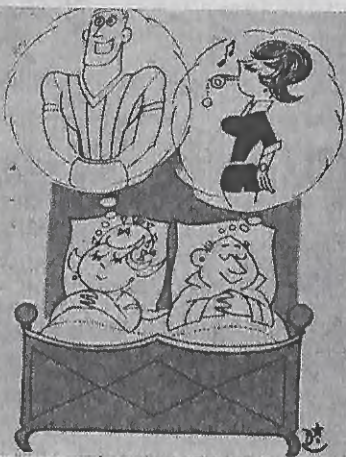
No matter what the score,

Our lads will live for ever more,

SCOTLAND, our team!

Och aye, there noo,

— DAVID BATESON



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NORTHERN DISTRICTS OUT! MARRICKVILLE GO UP TO SECOND DIVISION

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

Marrickville won promotion to Second Division this season following their convincing 3-1 victory over Northern Districts at Mackey Park last Sunday.

Their win gave them an aggregate 3-2 victory in the two-game play-off series ordered by the Federation following the amalgamation of Enmore and Rosebery.

A week earlier they went down 1-0 to the same team at Englefield Stadium.

It took three minutes for Marrickville to establish an unassailable lead.

In a sensational opening, only one minute passed when Bill Henshaw sent a high lob in the goalmouth which Northern Districts goalkeeper John McDonald punched clear.

However, the ball went straight to the feet of the dynamic George McCulloch, who cracked it past him into the net with a sizzling shot.

With the strong diagonal breeze helping Marrickville, they continued to attack and only two minutes later centre-forward Isaac McGill scored again, following a goalmouth scrimmage.

As the game progressed, Marrickville continued to hold the upper hand while Joe Vlasits' team was struggling to produce their flowing game which, somehow, did not come off on the smaller pitch.

Their superior fitness and the speed shown in the first game was no advantage on the small field and Marrickville with another week of hard training proved a different proposition.

MINISTER MEETS FIFA MAN

Asian Soccer Confederation secretary Koe Ewe-Tek, who is also a leading FIFA executive, paid a visit to Canberra last Friday for talks with Mr. Frank Stewart, Minister for Tourism and Recreation.

During the discussions Australia's application to join the Confederation formed part of the informal discussions.

Mr. Stewart made the Government's policy clear: they would view it favorably and as a friendly gesture if Australia gained admission to Asia.

The application will be decided in April, at the annual meeting of the Confederation held in Bangkok.



JOE VLASITS

McGill, Gordon Mackin and Henshaw were a constant menace in the Marrickville forward line, which forced Norths' defence to crack under pressure.

McGill scored the third goal in the 29th minute with a magnificent swerving shot from the corner flag which went under the bar, aided by the wind, but unlouped.

With the wind behind them, Northern Districts played better after the interval, but Marrickville put the shutters on them as they switched from attack into a blanket defence.

In the 62nd minute Northern Districts broke through when Russell Hagggett scored from the penalty spot after his team-mate winger John Ramische was fouled in the penalty area.



GEORGE MCCULLOCH

This goal put a lot of pressure on Marrickville, and for a while it looked as though Norths might get another goal to force a play-off.

But once again tactics changed and George McCulloch, the inspiration of the team, spurred Marrickville to venture deeper into attack.

In the 70th minute, Mackin rounded two defenders to break on the right flank, but his low goalmouth cross was completely missed by the unguarded McGill from five meters out.

Four minutes later, replacement goalkeeper Antman saved brilliantly from McGill following a through-pass by George McCulloch and at the other end John Davies headed over the bar from a pass by Graeme Mackinnon.

On Sunday's performance Marrickville could well be in for a long stay in Second Division as the side has the talent and enthusiasm to win their share of games.

The president of Marrickville, Bruce Livingstone,

who was naturally thrilled with the result, said after the match that the club is almost certain to get Marrickville Oval as their home ground this season.

It is sad to see Northern Districts return to Third Division after so much hard work to avoid the big drop, but with the talent at the club's disposal, chances are that their stay there should be a short one.

Marrickville: Horiapoulos, Hardy, Murru, McLaughlin, Pondekas, Hanlon, Mackin, Gould, McGill (2), McCulloch (1), Henshaw.

Northern Districts: McDonald (Antman), Cosentino, Scott, Glass, Hagggett (1), C. McDermott, Brown, McKinnon, S. McDermott (Kable), Davies, Ramische.

Women's football goes international

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Sydney's women's football goes international this week with the visit of the Auckland Ladies' teams — Blockhouse Bay, Eden Saints and Papakura Bays.

Matches against Sydney's top clubs will start on Sunday, and continue for a week.

The draw is:
● Sunday March 10, at Wentworth Park, Outer: 12 p.m. — Ingleburn v. Papakura; 1.30, Blacktown Spurs v. Blockhouse Bay, 3 p.m. St. George v. Eden Saints.

● Monday, March 11, Englefield Stadium, from 6.30: matches against other Sydney club teams.

● Tuesday, March 12, at Bankstown Soccer Centre: 6.30 p.m. Blacktown v. Eden, 7.45 p.m. St. George v. Blockhouse Bay, 9 p.m. Ingleburn v. Papakura.
● Friday, March 15, at Bankstown Soccer Centre: 6.30 p.m. St. George v. Papakura, 7.45 p.m. Ingleburn v. Eden, 9 p.m. Blacktown v. Blockhouse Bay.

● Saturday, March 16 will be used for any necessary play-offs, and the representative fixture Auckland v. Sydney will be played on Sunday March 17 on a ground to be arranged.

The leading Sydney Women play a stylish brand of football, and the conducting of the tour is a credit to Mrs. Pat O'Connor, Sydney Metropolitan Ladies'

SFA secretary, and the other enthusiastic officials on either side of the Tasman.

Judging from recent results, Eden and St. George could be the favorites for the series.

Following the success of ladies' soccer in Nepean, Bankstown, St. George and elsewhere, the Manly Warringah competition is at present being formed.

Ku-ring-gai Women's SFA secretary Jocelyn Eade (Tel. 46-4846) has 12 teams ready for the local social competition to be held on Sunday afternoons, and additional entries will be welcomed.

In another move Pat O'Connor has convened a meeting of all known ladies soccer organisations, to be held at Lakemba RSL on Wednesday March 20 at 7.30 p.m.

Aim of the meeting is to formulate plans for a State Association.

It is known that some other States — one is Western Australia — have ladies soccer competitions, so it may not be long before a national body emerges.

Meanwhile, here's to an enjoyable tour for our NZ sisters!

COOK'S TOUR OF MELBOURNE

Time is running out for teams still short of points to make the concluding stages of the Ampol Cup as the seventh round looms up this Saturday night at Olympic Park with the following pairings:

Hakoah v. Polonia,
JUST v. South Melbourne Hellas.

In last Saturday's Ampol matches Juventus surprised by beating Alexander 2-0 and Melbourne outclassed Wilhelmina 3-0.

With four players gone overseas, Caulfield City are looking for replacements and anyone who feels he can fill the bill should ring Peter Armstrong on 94-2515, or report to coach Sandy Wilson (ex-Hakoah and Wilhelmina) at their training sessions at Caulfield Reserve on Tuesday or Thursday evenings after 6.30 p.m.

Joe Cunningham, the 22-year-old George Cross striker who was the leading State League scorer in 1973, is reported to be returning to Scotland in April. Cunningham had a spell in Scottish Second Division with Forfar Athletic before coming to Australia to join George Cross two years ago.

"BOGEY MEN" AT IT AGAIN

The "bogey men" are at work in Melbourne again and this time they are running down the prospects of success of the proposed National League.

I have spoken to a few "Jonahs" of late on this subject and it's obvious that their lack of confidence in their own teams and their inability to attract the size of support needed is the reason for their sour grapes and the wish to retain the status-quo.

No one is over-optimistic over the proposals for a National League with the immense responsibilities it will bring both to clubs and to players.

But with Australia's participation in the World Cup finals, the climate is right for such a venture, which could give club soccer a badly needed booster and shot-in-the-arm.

One State League club, which has gone thoroughly into the implications of the proposed National League is JUST, which has recently made it known they will jump at the chance to participate.

And JUST on their record and achievements, their set-up and playing staff, have every right to go forward as one of the Victorian representatives.

They have a first-class record over the years in all competitions, they have an enterprising management, a large and generous support and, above all, they have always had a playing staff of the highest calibre, who place skill as the main emphasis of the game.

BORDER SOCCER BOOM

Soccer is flourishing on the Victoria-New South Wales border with an eight-club league competition in vogue in the Wodonga-Albury District this season.

Archie Campbell, the former George Cross winger who ended his playing career with Wilhelmina before having a short stint coaching Box Hill, is now team boss of Metro side Bayswater United.

After being on the sidelines for most of last season, Doug Barbour, the former Stranraer forward, is now back in the reckoning for Hakoah.

Les Shoorock will be team-manager of the Metropolitan representative team this year and Bobby McLachlan will be the coach.

Winner of the Lou Lazzari Award to the best youngster in the Australian Youth Championship went to Carlo Baravelli, of Juventus.

ST. ALBANS SNAPS SELF

Peter Self, the Alexander defender who joined the Victorian Police Force three years ago and quit the game, was reported recently to be returning to the club. But Peter instead was granted a clearance from Alexander and was recently snapped up by St. Albans, the First Division club whose coach is Sandy Henderson, the former Hakoah and State 'keeper.

Wilhelmina have the sons of two former players in their first team in goalkeeper Nick Van Edmond and defender Benny De Bruyckere.

Bill Donaldson, the young George Cross recruit from Merton, in Queensland, has shown up well in his outings for the club so far.

Returns to the clubs from the Ampol Cup have been disappointing and the wisdom of increasing the competition from eight to ten clubs is debatable. One thing is certain. It needed both Alexander and South Melbourne Hellas to qualify for the semis to give the attendances a boost and only an Alexander v. South Melbourne Hellas final would be assured of a bumper gate. In the fifth round, with the fixtures being JUST v. Slavia and Hakoah v. George Cross, the attendance was less than 2,000!

David Prentice, the Melbourne striker who broke his leg in his first game for the club midway through last season, is still not fit to resume. And there are strong doubts that Scotsman Prentice, a former St. Mirren player, may not make it for the opening of the new league season.

Slavia, who have shuffled around several grounds since they quit Port Melbourne several years ago, are reported to be interested in getting back to Olympic Park, which they used as their home ground before being relegated.

The PMG's Department held a soccer carnival at one of the Middle Park grounds last Sunday week with the proceeds going to the Queensland flood relief.

— JIM COOK

NZ under-16s here in May

The New Zealand national under-16 team will tour NSW for two weeks, starting Sunday May 5, playing six or seven matches.

The NSW Amateur Federation secretary, Eric Drury, in announcing the tour, said that matches will be played in Sydney, Southern and Western NSW and the ACT.

A Newcastle match is also likely, and in a very forward breakthrough it is believed that the Kiwis will go on to Melbourne for at least one match against the Victorians.

Mr. Drury is hopeful that the New Zealanders will play early matches to the Bristol Rovers' tour games both in Sydney and Melbourne.

Doug McCarron of Orange was elected president of the NSW Amateur Federation at its recent annual meeting, with Sid Tanner as vice-president. George Churchward is treasurer, Percy Freer registrar, and Eric Drury secretary.

The ACT decided not to affiliate with the Southern Branch, and will paddle its own canoe this year.

This in one sense is understandable as ACT has its State status.

At the same time it would have lost nothing and gained

a lot by also competing in representative competition against other Southern Branch and NSW Associations, because such competitions are much of the life's blood of the game, particularly at Canberra's stage of development.

NSW will enter the National Junior Championships in under-12, 13, 14 and 15-year levels, to be held in the ACT, WA, Tasmania and SA respectively.

The Sydney Branch elected its main officers for the year, and Sydney will

stage all the 1974 State Championship finals.

Inter-District under-14, 15 and 16 and Metropolitan Championships will be played in the usual format.

Early indications are that entries to the various district competitions are being very well maintained, and Association secretaries are keen for all interested to finalise their nominations as quickly as possible.

— KEITH GILMOUR

Published by Soccer World Publishing Co. Pty. Ltd. and printed by New Life Printery Pty. Ltd., at 54 Renwick Street, Marrickville, N.S.W. 2204. Telephone: 55-6877